

In the Claims

1-17. (Canceled)

18. (Currently amended) A method of drying printed media using ~~[[a]]~~an electromagnetic signal, comprising:

receiving printed web media at an input opening of a resonant cavity;

drying the printed media using an electric field formed within the resonant cavity and using forced air directed perpendicular to the input opening within the resonant cavity, the forced air egressed from the resonant cavity via an attenuation structure, the attenuation substantially attenuating electric field emissions from the attenuation structure; and

passing the printed media through an output opening, wherein the input and output openings substantially attenuate electric field emissions from the input and output openings;

wherein the drying the printed media further comprises measuring in real time the drying of the printed media and adjusting the electric field based on the real time measuring.

19. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 18, wherein receiving the printed media comprises providing the input opening along a longitudinal axis of the resonant cavity.

20. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 18, wherein the drying the printed media using an electric field formed within a resonant cavity further comprises drying the printed media using an electric field formed within a resonant cavity having stubs to attenuate the electric field.

21. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 20, wherein the drying the printed media using an electric field formed within a resonant cavity having stubs further comprises drying the printed media using an electric field formed within a resonant cavity having stubs with critical dimensions substantially equal to a quarter of a wavelength of the electric field.

22. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 18, wherein drying the printed media using an electric field formed within a resonant cavity further comprises ~~further comprises~~ providing the electric field in a line perpendicular to a line between the input and output openings.

23. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 18, wherein the drying the printed media using an electric field formed within a resonant cavity further comprises focusing the electric field in a localized area for centralized drying.

24. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 18, wherein the drying the printed media using an electric field formed within a resonant cavity further comprises frequency modulating the electric field.

25. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 24, wherein the frequency modulating the electric field further comprises using an asymmetrically slotted waveguide attached to a microwave source.

26. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 25, wherein the using an asymmetrically slotted waveguide attached to a microwave source further comprises exciting selected resonant modes.

27. (Canceled)

28. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 18, further comprising providing a conductive transport mechanism at the output opening.

29. (Previously Presented) An article of manufacture comprising a program storage medium readable by a computer, the medium tangibly embodying one or more programs of instructions executable by the computer to perform a method for drying printed media, the method comprising:

receiving printed web media at an input opening of a resonant cavity;

drying the printed media using an electric field formed within the resonant cavity and using forced air directed perpendicular to the input opening within the resonant cavity, the forced air egressed from the resonant cavity via an attenuation structure, the attenuation substantially attenuating electric field emissions from the attenuation structure; and

passing the printed media through an output opening, wherein the input and output openings substantially attenuate electric field emissions from the input and output openings;

wherein the drying the printed media further comprises measuring in real time the drying of the printed media and adjusting the electric field based on the real time measuring.

30. (Previously Presented) A printed media drying device, comprising:

means for receiving printed web media at a resonant cavity;

means for drying the printed media using an electric field formed within the resonant cavity and using forced air directed perpendicular to the input opening within the resonant cavity, the forced air egressed from the resonant cavity via a means for attenuating, the means for attenuating substantially attenuates electric field emissions from the means for attenuating; and

means for passing the printed media through an output opening, wherein the means for receiving and the means for passing substantially attenuating electric field emissions therefrom;

wherein the means for drying the printed media further comprises means for measuring in real time the drying of the printed media and adjusting the electric field based on the real time measuring.